



Migratory Waterfowl Permit Laws for Commercial Goose Hunting in Illinois Counties Outside of Alexander, Jackson, Union, Williamson, Franklin and Jefferson counties.



This information sheet is based on laws in effect as of the 2010-11 Waterfowl Season and is subject to change.

520 ILCS Illinois Wildlife Code

5/3.6. Commercial Control—Permit Required

§3.6. Before any person shall commercially control land or water, or both, in whole or in part for the taking of migratory waterfowl, he shall obtain a permit from the Department pursuant to this Article. That permit shall entitle him to possess blinds, pits or similar legal devices of concealment on that land or water. A person is “commercially controlling land or water or both” when he directly or indirectly receives compensation in exchange for the opportunity to enter onto that land or water.

(Source: P.A. 87-174.) [Formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 61 §3.6.]

5/3.7. Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Permit

§3.7. (a) Any person controlling land or water, or both, for commercial purposes in whole or in part for the taking of wild ducks or wild geese or for having the privilege of taking wild ducks or wild geese thereon shall make application for a Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area Permit (Commercial) and pay a basic annual permit fee of \$15 for each blind or pit on that land or water. Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area Permits shall be issued by the Department on the basis of principal use. Permit holders are entitled to harvest either wild ducks or wild geese. The permits described in this Paragraph shall expire each year on the day after the last day of the season during which it is lawful to take migratory waterfowl.

(b) The following duties are imposed upon the holder of a permit described in Paragraph (a):

- (1) He shall require all hunters, including the officers and employees of any licensed clubs, to register daily, on the daily register forms provided by the Department, prior to their hunting on the area covered by this permit. The registration shall include each registering hunter's name and mailing address.
- (2) He shall require each hunter, at the completion of each hunting day, to report the number and species of migratory waterfowl the hunter has taken.
- (3) He shall exhibit the daily registers described in SubSection (1) and make them open to inspection by authorized employees of the Department, any sheriff or deputy sheriff, or any other peace officer of the State.
- (4) He shall ensure the observance of the provisions of this Act in the taking and possession of migratory waterfowl by himself, his guests or employees on the area covered by his permit.
- (c) An area's principal use shall be determined by the composition of its harvest.

(Source: P.A. 87-174.) [Formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 61 §3.7.]

5/3.8. Migratory Waterfowl Areas; Geese

§3.8. Migratory waterfowl areas; geese.

- (a) On any property operated under a Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area Permit (Commercial) where the principal use is to take wild geese, it is the permit holder's duty to ensure all of the following:
 - (1) That no person takes wild geese except from blind or pit.
 - (2) That no person establishes or uses any blind or pit for the taking of wild geese within 200 yards of any other blind or pit or within 100 yards of the boundary of the property on which the blind or pit is located.
 - (3) That no person establishes or uses any blind or pit for the taking of wild geese within 200 yards of any wildlife refuge boundary or public road right-of-way adjacent to any State or Federal waterfowl refuge.

17 Illinois Administrative Code 590

Section 590.10 Statewide Regulations

(h) Commercial Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area Permits

- (1) The holder of a permit shall forward information on harvest and hunters to the Department, on original forms furnished by the Department by **March 1** annually. Permit holders are required to retain a copy of their harvest records for at least 2 years after expiration of their permit. Failure to timely supply such reports will make the permit holder subject to revocation of his permit and suspension of the privilege to hold the permit for up to 5 years.
- (2) On any property where the principal waterfowl harvest is wild geese, it is the permit holder's duty to ensure that no more than 5 persons occupy or attempt to take wild geese from any blind or pit at the same time during the Canada goose season.